financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 29.61 Crores between 1987-88 to 2000-2001. During the current financial year an amount of Rs. 5.28 Crores has been approved for the State of Karnataka.

In addition, six voluntary organisations in Karnataka have also been provided financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 49.96 Lakhs during the last three years for undertaking innovative and experimental projects.

Syllabus for NCERT

265. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious doubts have surfaced over implementation of the syllabus this year;

(b) if so, whether teachers and apex educational bodies would go about incorporating the syllabus without the teachers having requisite training and orientation;

(c) whether the NCERT has decided to provide sufficient training to teachers for implementation of this new syllabus; and

(d) what steps are being considered by Government in this regard and to make non-controversies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) NCERT does not foresee any problem in the implementation of the syllabus.

(b) Teacher's training and their orientation is a continuous process at NCERT and as such there is no break with the past practices in teaching and learning in the new curriculam.

(c) and (d) The NCERT is planning to provide teachers training for effective implementation of the new curriculum. Besides, other agencies like SCERTs and Boards of Education are also taking steps in this direction.

Drop-outs in MCD schools

266. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Government has noted that the drop-out

rate in MCD schools is increasing and the rate for girls is 29 per cent whereas that for boys is 23 per cent;

(b) whether over 3 lakh targeted students are still out of classrooms;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the pass percentage is dipping sharply; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA] (a) As per information received from MCD, drop-out rate in MCD schools is noHncreasing.

(b) In a survey conducted by MCD, in areas under its jurisdiction, the number of out of schools children has been identified as one lakh approximately.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Reconstitution of Railway Committees

267. SHRIBHAGATRAMMANHAR:
SHRIRAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DRUCCs, ZRUCCs, NRUCCs, Hindi Salahakar Samiti and other similar Committees are being re-constituted by the Ministry of Railways;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what criteria is being adopted to nominate members of these Committees and what are the terms and conditions of each Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRYOF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) The Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committee/Zonal Railways Users' Consultative Committee/National Railway User's Consultative Council have been reconstituted for a two year term *w.e.f.* 1.1.2002 to 31.12.2003. TTie functions of these Committees/Council and the details of the persons belonging to various categories who are given representation on them are given in Statements I-IV *(See below).*